



Deciding Where to Spend the Winter

The members of the expedition arrived at Station Camp near the mouth of the Columbia River. While they were staying at Station Camp, Clark's party went on a trip to the shore of the Pacific Ocean near Cape Disappointment. Also, at Station Camp, they took a poll of opinions of where to spend the winter of 1805-1806. If you were an expedition member, what would you vote for? Do you agree to cross the dangerous river to get to the South or head East upriver to look for a winter campsite?

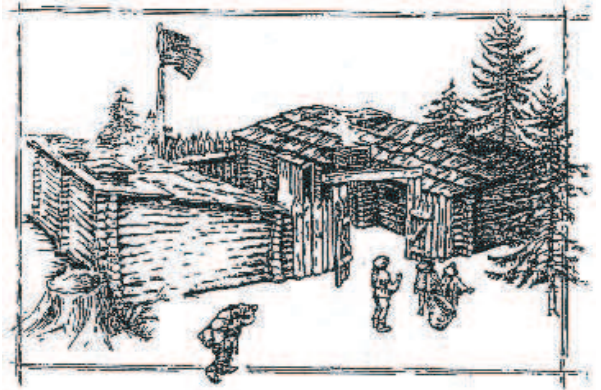


Cross to the South side _____

Head upriver _____

Because ...

They crossed to the South side and found the best spot for their winter camp and named this place Fort Clatsop in honor of the American Indians that lived near there. Clatsop means "dried salmon people." The expedition arrived here December 7, 1805, and stayed until March 23, 1806.



Why do you think the expedition chose the Fort Clatsop site for their winter encampment site to spend the winter?

